

# Meeting Presentation Slides

September 2023 Governing Board Meeting

# Agenda Item 6c

## Policy and Outreach Update

Presented by:  
Brittany Covich

# Legislative Update



## Bills directly impacting SNC:

- SB 39 (Laird)
- SB 841 (Dahle)

## Other bills to watch:

- SB 867 (Allen) - \$15.5B bond
- AB 1567 (Garcia) - \$15.1B bond
- AB 338 (Aguilar-Curry)
- AB 388 (Connolly)



# Sharing our work online...

 **California Natural Resources Agency**  
@CalNatResources

Join us on June 21 at noon for Secretary Speaker Series: What's Happening with @30x30CA? Secty. @WadeCrowfoot, @jmpnorris and panelists will discuss the work ahead/how to meet our ambitious goals! Register now here: [ca-water-gov.zoom.us/webinar/regist...](https://ca-water-gov.zoom.us/webinar/regist...)  
#30X30CA




**SECRETARY SPEAKER SERIES**

**What's Happening with 30x30? CALIFORNIA**


**The Movement to Protect and Restore Nature Across California**

**Wednesday, June 21, 2023 | Noon -1 PM**





 **>> REGISTER VIA ZOOM**

 **Speaker Series: What's happening with ...**  

**Watch later** **Share**



**MORE VIDEOS**

  **42:53 / 1:00:27**   **YouTube** 

 Sierra Nevada Conservancy reposted

 **California Natural Resources Agency** @CalNatResources · Aug 24

ICYMI: A recording of Secretary Speaker Series - Managing Megafires is now available to watch here [youtube.com/live/GTPHd5Zn...](https://youtube.com/live/GTPHd5Zn...) To watch all past webinars, go to [resources.ca.gov/About-Us/Secre...](https://resources.ca.gov/About-Us/Secre...)

**SECRETARY SPEAKER SERIES**

**MANAGING MEGAFIRES**

**Reflecting on a Decade in the New Megafire Era: Lessons Learned, Progress and a Path Forward**


**August 23, 2023 | noon - 1 pm**

 **>> Register via ZOOM**

The 2013 Rim Fire burned through the Sierra Nevada becoming the second largest wildfire in California's recorded history at the time. Now, a decade later, it ranks as just the 11th largest wildfire on record. The Rim Fire initiated an era of "megafires" sweeping across California's landscape. Since then, leaders across our state have improved understanding of the complexities of wildfire management and the urgency to increase pace and scale of our efforts.

As megafires rage this summer from Canada to Greece, join us for a candid talk with experts about how catastrophic wildfires have shifted and intensified our wildfire strategies and what is needed moving forward.


**RESOURCES.CA.GOV**








**Wade Crowfoot**  
CNRA Secretary

**Elliot Vander Kolk**  
Sierra Nevada Conservancy

**Managing Megafire - Reflecting on a Decade in the New Megafire Era**

**California Natural Resources Agency**  631 subscribers

**5**     



# And in the field...



















Photo credit: Nic Enstice



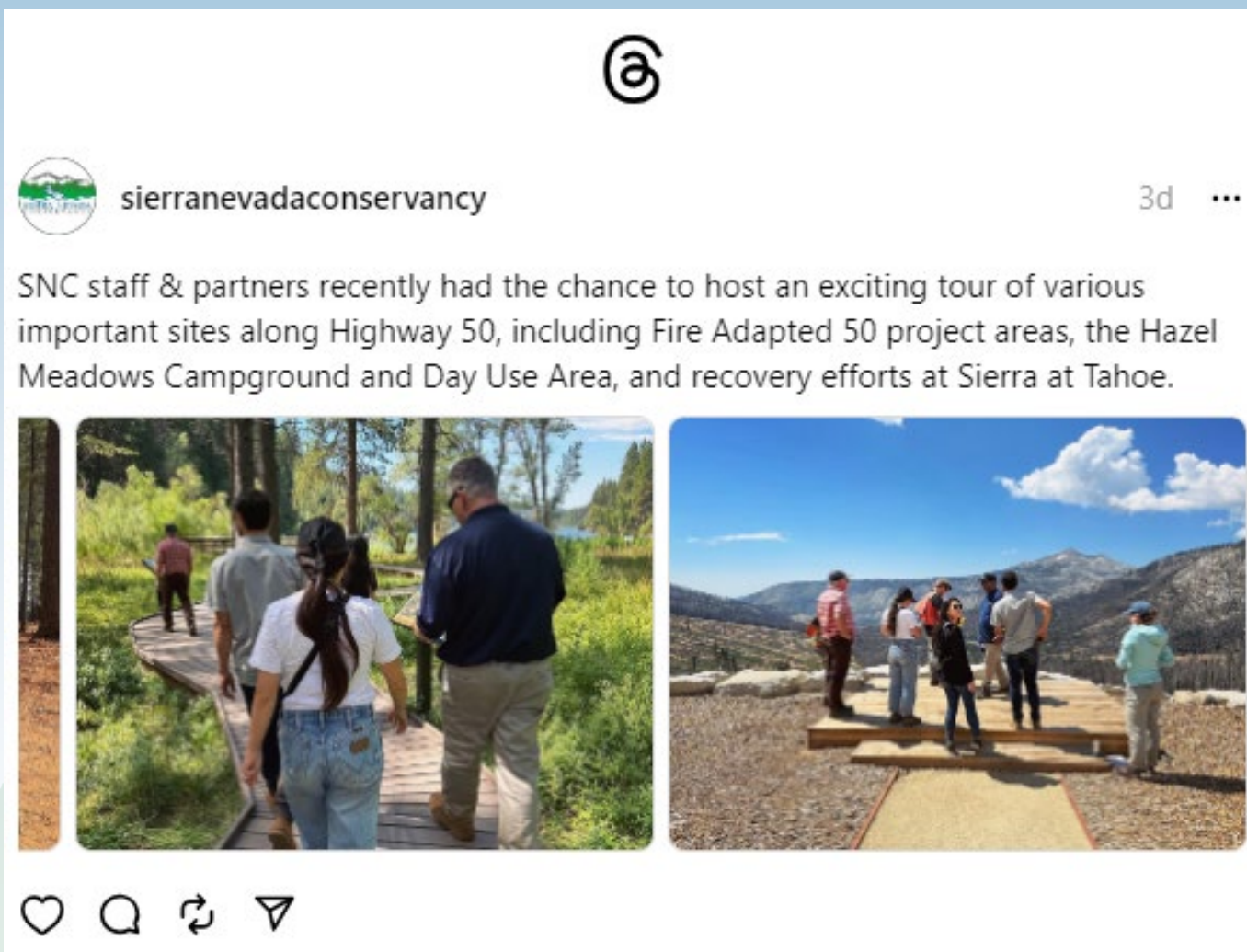








# Celebrating Project Successes



# Coming up...



2024 WIP Summit celebrating  
**20 Years of the SNC!**

March 2024



# Agenda Item 07

## Regional Forest and Fire Capacity Program (RFFCP) Update

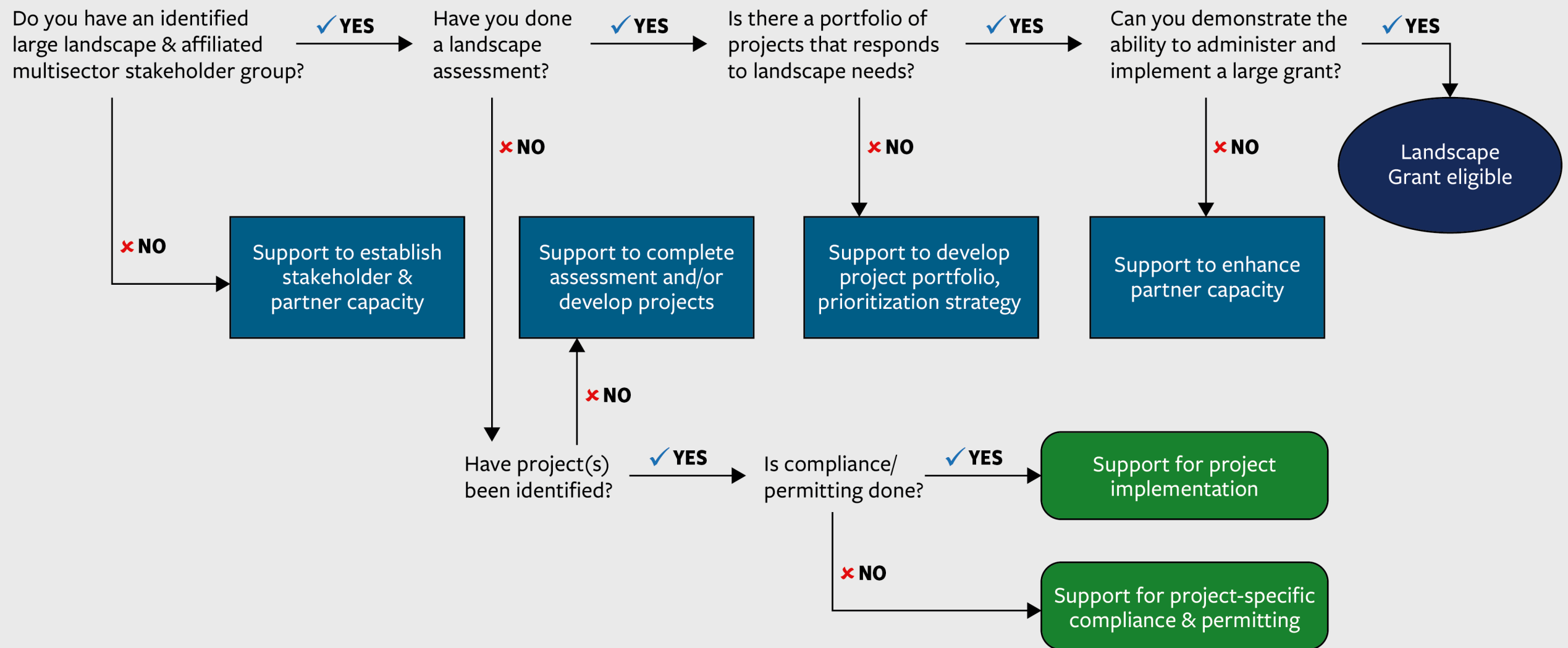
Presented by:  
Alex Vance

# DOC's RFFCP Objectives

- Increase capacity, support strategic collaborative planning and coordination
- Strengthen regional leadership
- Build a pipeline of forestry and wildfire protection projects
- Identify, prioritize, plan, and make ready projects

# RFFCP and other SNC Programs

## Pathways to a Landscape Grant





# Investments and Outcomes To Date, Round 1

## Round 1 (\$1.9 million)

- Funded 'leadership organizations' to build partnerships throughout the SNC Region
- Established and strengthened collaboratives
- Built capacity of partner organizations
- Supported development of plans and lists of priority projects from various collaboratives and planning areas
- Funded demonstration projects

# Investments and Outcomes To Date, Round 2

## Round 2 (\$7.77 million)

- Funded organizations at various subregional scales to build partnerships, continued subregional planning, developed project pipelines
- Provided capacity-building programs for all
- Promoted tribal engagement
- Funded demonstration projects

# Outcomes ... so far!

**\$106 Million in Leveraged Funds**

**23 NEW Permanent Positions**

**24 NEW Partnerships or Collaboratives**

**34 EXPANDED Partnerships or Collaboratives**

**Planning/ Permitting Support for 384,285 Acres**

**Planning/ Permitting Support in 24 Counties**

**Five Shovel-Ready Projects**



# LANDSCAPE GRANT READINESS

*What it takes to work at scale*

## Large landscape

Ecologically-connected area that will benefit from a strategic approach

## Effective decision-making

Partnership can develop projects & prioritize the most important actions

## Assessment

Planning is informed by science, Traditional Ecological Knowledge, local & state priorities

## Project portfolio

Partnership has a strategic plan & matching projects

## Broad-based participation

Partnership integrates diverse perspectives & values, with tribal involvement & support

## Administrative capacity

Partnership can manage large sums of money

## Implementation capacity

People & infrastructure (e.g. biomass utilization) to get the work done

SIERRA NEVADA  
CONSERVANCY

# Landscape Grant Readiness

SNC's RFFCP  
investments are  
designed to  
support landscape  
grant readiness.

[WWW.SIERRANEVADA.CA.GOV](http://WWW.SIERRANEVADA.CA.GOV)



# Round 3 Goals

- Collaboratives and entities throughout the Region develop the **capacity** to engage in **landscape-scale activities** and/or **comprehensive community-protection projects**
- Every planning area has a **robust pipeline of priority projects**
- Implement pilot program to **build tribal capacity**

# Round 3 Funding Components

- 1) **Capacity funding** to support organizational growth
- 2) **Project Pipeline Development funding** to move priority projects to next stage
- 3) **Tribal Capacity Building Pilot Program** focused on elevating the capacity of tribes

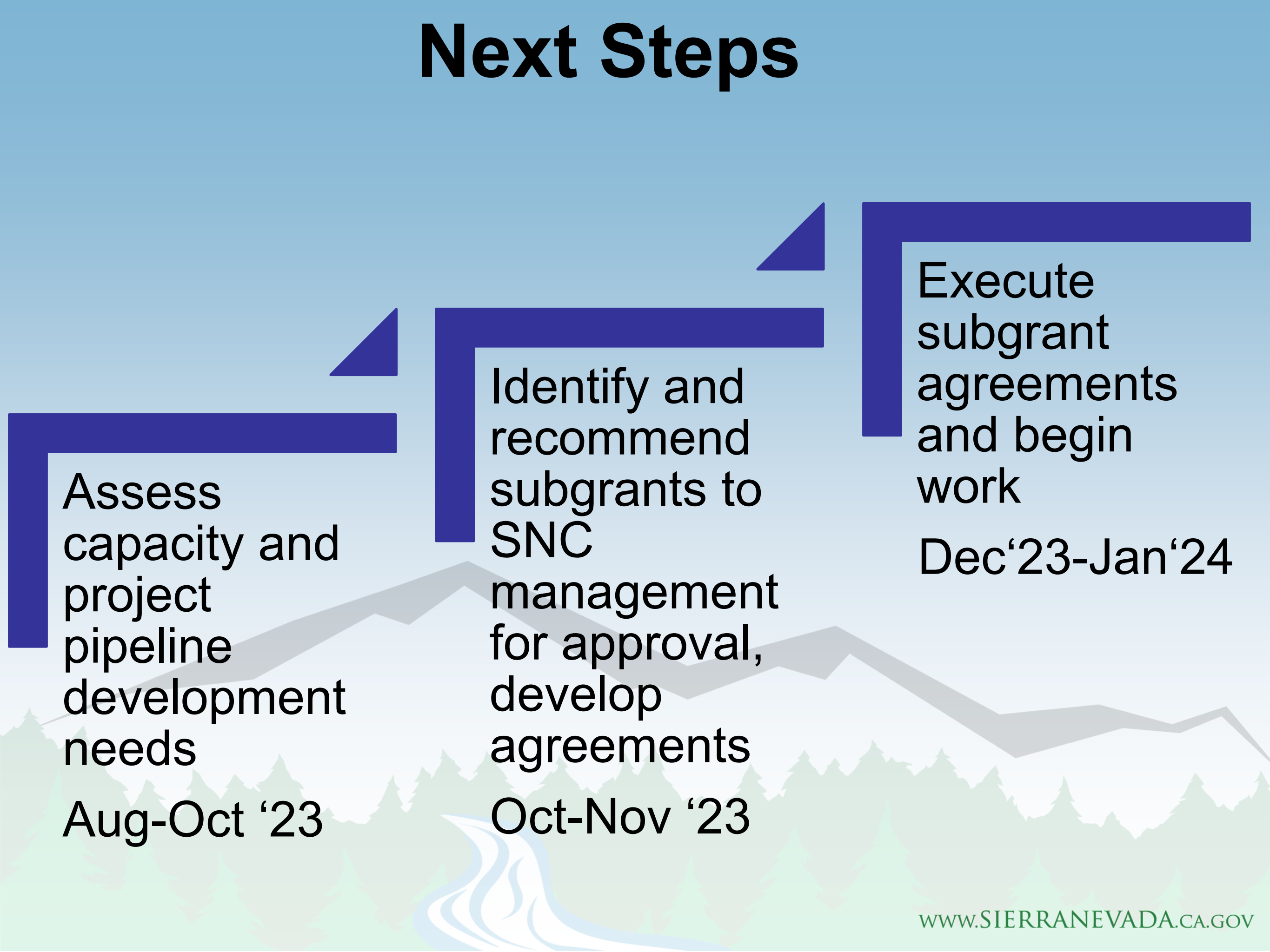


# SNC's Regional Support and Planning Responsibilities

- Develop and administer the subgrant program
- Support the subgrant organizations
- Oversee Regional communication
- Track and package program statistics and provide progress reports
- Data stewardship
- Regional Priority Plan development



# Next Steps



Assess  
capacity and  
project  
pipeline  
development  
needs

Aug-Oct '23

Identify and  
recommend  
subgrants to  
SNC  
management  
for approval,  
develop  
agreements

Oct-Nov '23

Execute  
subgrant  
agreements  
and begin  
work

Dec '23-Jan '24



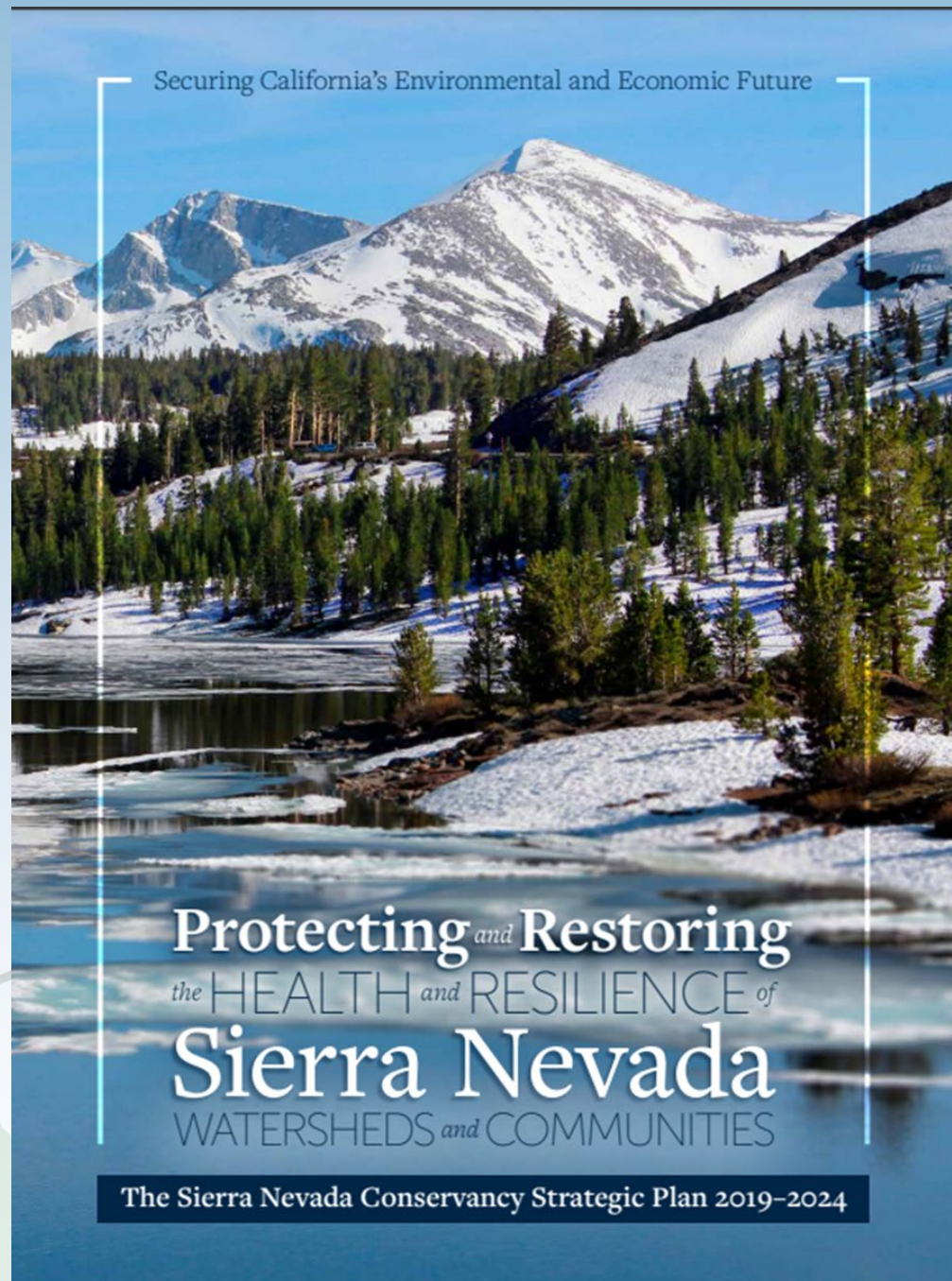
# Agenda Item 08

## Strategic Planning Update

Presented by:  
Julie Alvis



# Five-Year Planning



Current Plan runs through June 2024

New Plan will span July 2024 to June 2029

Audience: Board and SNC Staff

The Plan's Five Regional Goals:

- Healthy Watersheds & Forests
- Resilient Sierra Nevada Communities
- Vibrant Recreation & Tourism
- Strategic Lands Conserved
- Impactful Regional Identity



# Timeline

Timeframe	Activity
September – October 2023	Survey external partners regarding Regional Goals; Board advisory committee meets to guide staff on development
Now – Oct/Nov 2023	Staff writing first draft of Strategic Plan
Oct/Nov 2023 – January 2024	Release draft Plan for public comment
December 2023 Board Meeting	Board discussion regarding draft Plan
January 2024 – March 2024	Final editing on Plan, incorporating Board discussion and public comments received. Final draft version prepared for March Board approval
March 2024 Board Meeting	Final Strategic Plan recommended for approval
June 2024 Board Meeting	First Action Plan under new Plan recommended for approval
July 2024	Staff begins work under new Strategic Plan and first Action Plan



# Initial Thoughts

## *Plan should:*

- Align with SNC's mission and our existing authorities as a state department
- Support the triple bottom line: economic, environmental, and social well-being
- Help achieve state goals, while reflecting Regional and local perspectives and needs
- Keep the Sierra Nevada Watershed Improvement Program (WIP) front and center
- Be compelling and underscore the urgency to act
- Show SNC's approach to working in the Region through all kinds of budget cycles



# Areas for Refinement

Updates or revisions that may require additional focus:

- Covers SNC's new boundary area
- Addresses new statute concerning subregional alignment, and addition of equity and climate resilience to SNC's focus areas
- Considers updates to framing of SNC's five Regional Goals
  - Are they still the right goals?
  - Would they benefit from an update?
  - Do they encompass the variety of projects we fund?
- Provides clarity between SNC's long-term Regional Goals and the five-year work plan it sets for the organization



# Next Steps

- Survey partners about Regional Goals
- Staff starting to draft sections that we know are likely to be included
- Internal discussions about the SNC work plan ... what objectives will we strive for over the next five years?
- Staff works with an advisory committee of the Board, if formed
- Prepare a first draft for public comment, and for Board review and discussion at the December Board meeting



# Thank you!

